

Message Text

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61

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 382

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PN, PQ

SUBJ: 1950 HIGHWAY CONVENTION

REF: PANAMA 1744

1. EMBASSY PROPOSES TO DELIVER TEXT OF FOLLOWING NOTE
TO GOP AS NOTICE IN WRITING OF DESIRE TO TERMINATE 1950
HIGHWAY CONVENTION AND REQUESTS DEPARTMENT'S CONCURRENCE,
OR LATERNATE LANGUAGE IN LIEU THEREOF:

BEGIN QUOTE: I HAVE THE HONOR TO REFER TO THE
HIGHWAY CONVENTION BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA SIGNED AT PANAMA CITY ON
SEPTEMBER 14, 1950, AND TO ARTICLE XI, PARAGRAPH 3, OF
SAID CONVENTION WHEREIN IT IS STIPULATED THAT "EITHER
HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY MAY, BY GIVING ONE YEAR'S WRITTEN
NOTICE TO THE OTHER HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY, TERMINATE
THE PRESENT CONVENTION AT THE END OF THE INITIAL TWENTY-
YEAR PERIOD OR AT ANY TIME THEREAFTER."

HIS EXCELLENCY WILL RECALL THAT IN AMBASSADOR
SAYRE'S NOTE NO. 128 OF JULY 17, 1973, HE REFERRED TO HE
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MEETING OF JULY 29, 1971, OF THE JOINT HIGHWAY BOARD

DURING WHICH THE UNITED STATES MEMBERS INFORMED THE PANAMANIAN MEMBERS THAT, IN ADDITION TO ITS RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTENANCE UNDER ARTICLE I OF THE 1950 HIGHWAY CONVENTION, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA WOULD UNDERTAKE TO REHABILITATE THE BOYD-ROOSEVELT HIGHWAY FROM ITS INTERSECTION AT RANDOLPH ROAD TO NEAR THE INTERSECTION WITH THE TOCUMEN AIRPORT ROAD PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION OF THE TWENTY-YEAR PERIOD FOR WHICH THE UNITED STATES ACCEPTED RESPONSIBILITY. HIS EXCELLENCY ALSO WILL RECALL THAT THE EMBASSY HAS REPORTED PERIODICALLY ON THE PROGRESS OF THE REHABILITATION WORK AS IN MY NOTE NO. 67 OF APRIL 10, 1974.

I HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT MY GOVERNMENT WISHES TO TERMINATE THE 1950 HIGHWAY CONVENTION AS THE TWENTY-YEAR PERIOD FOR WHICH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ACCEPTED FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE BOYD-ROOSEVELT HIGHWAY HAS NOW RUN ITS COURSE. THIS NOTE, THEREFORE, CONSTITUTES NOTIFICATION IN WRITING OF THE DESIRE TO TERMINATE THE CONVENTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 3 OF ARTICLE XI.

IF THE FOREGOING PROPOSAL TO TERMINATE THE 1950 HIGHWAY CONVENTION IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF PANAMA, I HAVE THE HONOR TO PROPOSE THAT THIS NOTE AND YOUR EXCELLENCY'S REPLY AGREEING THERETO SHALL CONSTITUTE AGREEMENT BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS TO TERMINATE THE 1950 HIGHWAY CONVENTION ONE YEAR FROM THE DATE OF THIS NOTE.

ACCEPT, EXCELLENCY, THE RENEWED ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION. END QUOTE.

2. COMMENT: ADCM AGAIN RAISED QUESTION OF POSSIBLE TERMINATION OF 1950 HIGHWAY CONVENTION WITH VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN RELATIONS ON APRIL 9. VICE MINISTER SAID NO REPLY HAD BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS CONCERNING ANY OBSERVATIONS WHICH THAT MINISTRY MIGHT HAVE ABOUT TERMINATION OF THE CONVENTION OR THE REHABILITATION WORK. FONOFF EVIDENCED NO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PARTICULAR CONCERN IN MATTER.
JORDEN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
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